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COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. Director of Public Affairs
 Room 7D00
 Headquarters

George --

Per telecon here is what we have found in Soviet media reporting on Governor Robb's speech in Latvia in September. Hope it will be of use to Governor Robb.

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SOVIET ARTICLE'S REPORT ON GOV. ROBB IN LATVIA

The Latvian paper Sovetskaya Latvija (Soviet Latvia), published in Russian, on 20 September 1986 carried on page 3 an article entitled "The Meeting at Yurmala: Results and Prospects." The report describes the final day of the Soviet-U.S. "Chautauqua" conference and interviews attendees to find out what "parting thoughts and counsels they had for each other."

In the middle of the article it relates an "American folklore" tale told by Uldis Skuya, a Latvian collective farmer, about a farmer who was asked by a rider on horseback if he had chosen the correct road. The farmer responded that the road was correct but the rider needed to exchange the horse's head with its tail in order to get where he was going. Skuya's recommendation is that "some representatives of the White House, who insist that the road toward peace is through an arms race, take the advice of this farmer."

Claiming that "such ideas and feelings, basically, were dominant in the addresses of the participants of the conference and in its official closing ceremony," the article then provides a biography of Charles Robb:

He was a Marine, fought in Vietnam, and until recently held the job of Governor of Virginia, a state in which, Robb noted with some pride, are located the Pentagon and the CIA. In his presentation he said quite a few good things about our land. He was amazed by the heroism of the Soviet people, victorious in the Great Fatherland war, and noted our successes in economic and social development. Robb spoke against the nuclear race, even hinted at an unfavorable attitude toward Reagan's SDI. But at the same time, his presentation sustained a mentor-like tone, reminiscent of a lecture. He evaluated our life style and admonished, even attempted to instruct us in developing our economy and agriculture. Although Charles Robb, who has aspirations to advance his candidacy for president, tried not to evoke as unfavorable a reaction as B. Yotenberg, and his presentation in veiled form was permeated with a categorical apology for American politics and way of life, at the same time he maintained a similar desire to solve problems from a position of strength. We can only hope that inherent in the American people is a healthy sense, friendliness, and a mind which would allow the guests to evaluate this presentation in the same way as did the Soviet part of the auditorium.

The article continues by discussing other American and Soviet presentations. It ends with Gov. Robb's statements of gratitude to the Latvian delegation and other Soviet republics for the meeting.